

MINUTES OF THE
JOINT HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES APPROPRIATION SUBCOMMITTEE
Wednesday, January 19, 2005, 3:30 p.m.
Room W125, West Office Building, State Capitol Complex

Members Present: Sen. Sheldon L. Killpack, Committee Co-Chair
Rep. Merlynn T. Newbold, Committee Co-Chair
Sen. D. Chris Buttars
Sen. Allen M. Christensen
Sen. Gene Davis
Rep. Bradley G. Last
Rep. David Litvack
Rep. Steven R. Mascaro
Rep. Roz McGee
Rep. Paul Ray
Rep. Aaron Tilton

Staff Present: Spencer C. Pratt, Legislative Fiscal Analyst
Thor Nilsen, Legislative Fiscal Analyst
Norda Shepard, Secretary

A list of visitors is filed with the committee minutes.

The meeting was called to order by Co-Chair Killpack at 3:32 p.m.

1. Welcome and Introductions

Co-Chair Killpack welcomed everyone and stated that the intent of today's meeting would be to give a basic overview of how the committee will proceed through this session and to have an opportunity to make introductions, as some are new to the committee. The staff, Legislators, Department and Division directors introduced themselves.

2. Committee Procedures and Adoption of Rules

Co-Chair Killpack stated the committee will operate under Senate/House Joint Rules with motions needing to pass in both the House and the Senate. He indicated that the chairs will begin committee meetings precisely on time. He stated that until a quorum is present, no official business can be conducted but meetings will begin on time. Once a quorum is present, minutes and other matters can be approved. He said this committee has an intense amount of material to cover in a short period of time and committee meetings need to start on time.

3. Schedule of Subcommittee Meetings

Co-Chair Killpack outlined the proposed calendar for the committee meetings. All meetings will be in Room W125 at 2:00 p.m. He noted this schedule could change, but if changes need to occur, notice would be given within the 24 hour requirement where possible. The committee will meet and hear from the Department of Human Services on January 20, January 24, and January 26, with public testimony being heard on January 27. The Department of Health will be heard on January 31 and February 2, with public testimony on February 3. Committee action on both Departments is scheduled to be taken on February 7.

4. Overview of New Budget Format

Analyst Thor Nilsen explained the new budget format. He said that during the interim the Executive Appropriations Committee met with the Fiscal Analyst's office and approved an attempt to make the budget information which the

analysts provide more meaningful, concise and to the point. He explained there are three types of documents contained in the binder for both the Department of Human Services and the Department of Health: a "Compendium of Budget Issues (COBI), which provides detailed background information and references at a program level; "Issue Briefs" which discuss issues that merit more discussion; and "Budget Briefs" which highlight issues, recommendations, accountability measures and summary-level budget tables. As an example of how the COBI is arranged, Mr. Nilsen walked through Chapter 5, Division of Services of People with Disabilities. He explained there is a glossary of terms and an index in the back of the each COBI.

Analyst Spencer Pratt noted that the COBIs are on the Legislative web site and the "Issue Briefs" and "Budget Briefs" will be on the web site as they are discussed. He indicated that "Issue Briefs" are identified by a blue header on each page. He stated these are generally issues that cross line items or what have been commonly referred to as "building blocks" in years past. "Budget Briefs" are identified by green headers and address general line item recommendations, intent language and fiscal analyst's recommendations for action. These briefs are numbered at the top for easy identification.

Mr. Pratt reported that through a joint effort between Executive Appropriations, Legislative Research and General Counsel, and Fiscal Analysts, there will be additional restrictions on intent language for this session. Intent Language that has not gone through the Fiscal Analyst and Research and General Counsel to see if it meets standards will not be recommended. He noted in the past that some committees have tried to enact legislation through Intent Language which would not be upheld in court. This new ruling applies to any item of Intent Language from any source. He indicated that there are some recommended items of Intent Language in the binder that do not conform to this new policy and will not now be recommended. One is found on Tab 6, the bottom of page 4 concerning oral health status in the Department of Health and Issue Brief #HHS-05-30 in the Department of Human Services. Mr. Nilsen stated that there may be others that will need clarification as meetings continue.

5. Other Committee Business

Committee discussions were held concerning deadlines, public testimony, and the governor's budget recommendations. In response, Co-Chair Killpack explained that this committee's responsibility is to recommend a budget with the available allocated funds. He indicated the one meeting for each department has been set aside to allow as much time as possible for public testimony. Rep. McGee asked if committee members could have a copy of the new Intent Language directive. This will be forthcoming.

MOTION: Sen. Davis moved to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously.

Co-Chair Killpack adjourned the meeting at 4:16 p.m.

Minutes reported by Norda Shepard, Secretary.

Sen. Sheldon L. Killpack
Committee Co-Chair

Rep. Merlynn T. Newbold
Committee Co-Chair